Library

RURAL DISTRICT

OF

# OSGOLDCROSS

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

# Medical Officer of Health

and the

# Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

**1953**

# RURAL DISTRICT
# OF
# OSGOLDCROSS

# ANNUAL REPORT
# OF THE
# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
# FOR THE YEAR
# 1953.

BY

J. F. FRASER.

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29938909

# C ON T E N T S.


| | | Page. |
|---|---|---|
| PART ONE: | Statistics and Social Conditions | 1 |
| PART TWO: | Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases | 3 |
| PART THREE: | Maternity and Child Welfare | 5 |
| PART FOUR: | School Medical Services | 6 |
| PART FIVE: | Home Nursing | 6 |
| PART SIX: | Care and After Care | 6 |
| PART SEVEN: | Mental Health | 6 |
| PART EIGHT: | Ambulance Service | 7 |


- - - - - - - - - -

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration a Report on the Health and Health Services of Osgoldcross during the year 1953.

The Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Rural District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health.

# PART ONE

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the District: 33,954 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of population: 7,758.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1953: 2,428

Rateable value at end of 1953: £32,207

Product of a penny rate(at 31st December,1953) £124/6/6

These figures show a population increase of 34.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

(The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1952)

### BIRTHS.

| Live Births. | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 65 (58) | 60 (54) | 125 (112) |
| Illegitimate | 1 ( 4) | 1 ( 3) | 2 ( 7) |
| Total | 66 (62) | 61 (57) | 127 (119) |

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population; 16.4 (15.4)

| Still Births. | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 2 (1) | 1 (3) | 3 (4) |
| Illegitimate | - (-) | - (-) | - (-) |

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births: 23.1 (32.5)
Rate per 1,000 estimated population: .39 (.52)

| DEATHS. | Male | Female | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| All age groups | 52 (37) | 24 (42) | 76 (79) |

| Infants under 1 yr. | Male | Female | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 3 (1) | - (1) | 3 (2) |
| Illegitimate | - (1) | - (-) | - (1) |

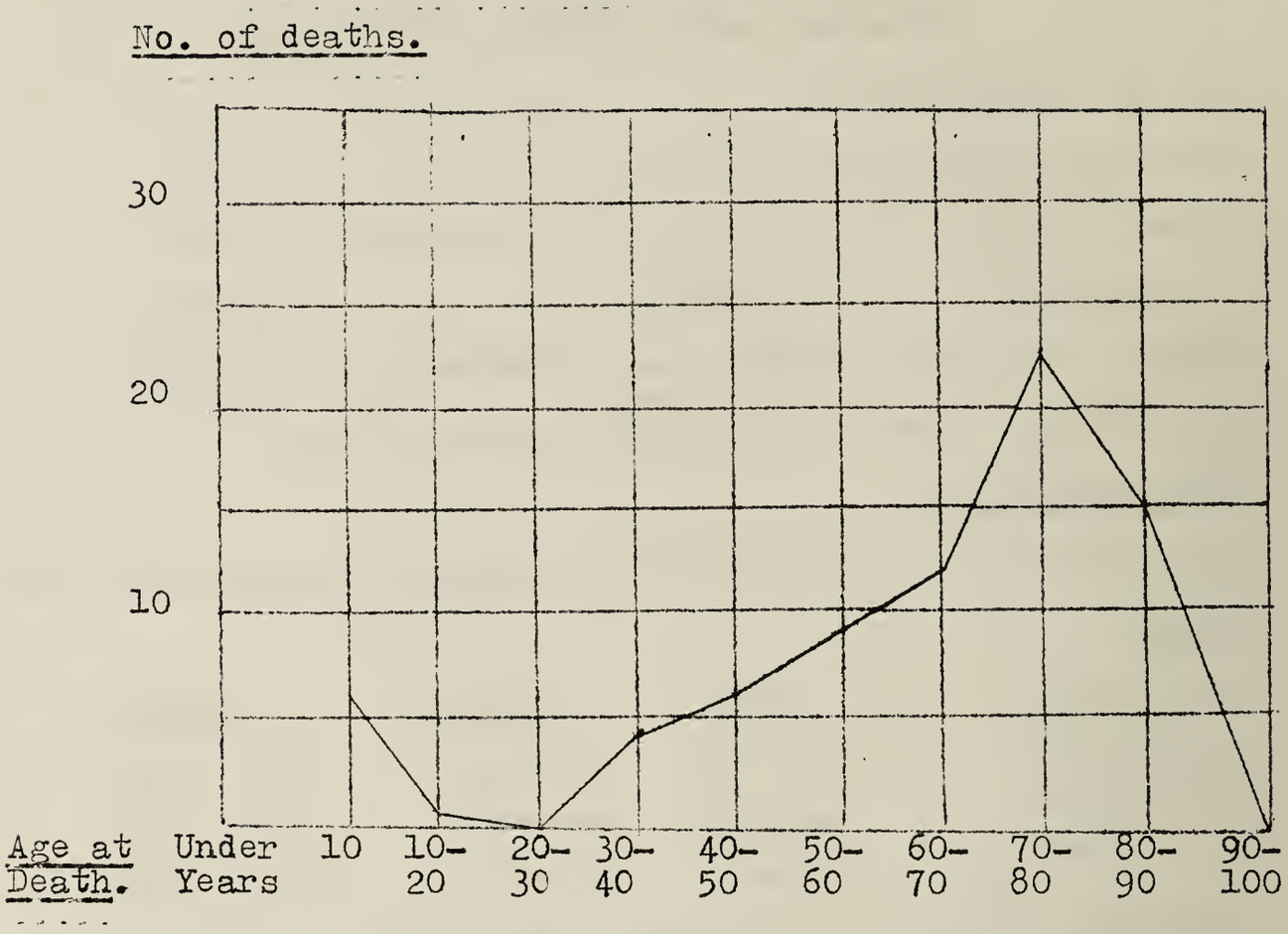
Maternal Deaths. NIL (NIL)

### Death Rates.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| General rate per 1,000 population | 9.8 | (10.2) |
| All infants per 1,000 live births | 23.6 | (25.2) |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | 24.00 | (17.86) |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | NIL | (142.86) |
| Maternal Deaths | NIL | (NIL) |

The number of births has risen by 8 as compared with last year, and the birth rate has also risen slightly. Deaths have decreased by three during the same period.

Graph showing age at death.




The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

TABLE I.

| Cause of Death | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus | 5 | - | 5 |
| Malignant Neoplasm Uterus | - | 1 | 1 |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | 9 | 2 | 11 |
| Diabetes | 2 | - | 2 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | 1 | - | 1 |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Coronary Disease, Angina | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other Heart Diseases | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Leukaemia, Aleukaemia | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Influenza | 1 | - | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Bronchitis | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis | 1 | - | 1 |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 2 | - | 2 |
| All other accidents | 1 | - | 1 |
| Suicide | 2 | - | 2 |
| | 52 | 24 | 76 |

There were three infant deaths during the year, all of which occurred in hospital. One was due to Broncho Pneumonia, one to Epilepsy and the third to Lateral Sinus Thrombosis.

Comparison of 1953 statistics with those of 1952, 1951, 1950 and 1949.

| | 1953. | 1952. | 1951. | 1950. | 1949. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Live Births | 127 | 119 | 113 | 121 | 134 |
| Population | 7758 | 7724 | 7740 | 7580 | 7560 |
| Birth Rate | 16.4 | 15.4 | 14.59 | 15.96 | 17.72 |
| Death Rate | 9.8 | 10.2 | 10.07 | 11.08 | 11.2 |
| Infant Death Rate | 23.6 | 25.2 | 44.25 | 8.26 | 44.77 |

## PART TWO.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases throughout the year (other than Tuberculosis).

### TABLE II.

| Disease. | Jan/ Mar | Apl/ Jun | Jul/ Sep | Oct/ Dec | Total | Deaths | No of cases admitted to hospital |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Whooping Cough | 3 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 15 | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 3 | - | 1 | 5 | 9 | - | 7 |
| Measles | 47 | 18 | 7 | 22 | 94 | - | - |
| Pneumonia | 1 | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | - |
| Food Poisoning | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| Erysipelas | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| | 54 | 21 | 17 | 30 | 122 | - | 7 |

### Diphtheria.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year. During 1953, 29 children under the age of five years, and 117 between the ages of 5 and 15, received their primary immunisation against diphtheria.

COMPARISON OF OSGOLDCROSS VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING RURAL DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND & WALES.

| | Osgoldcross Rural District | Aggregate West Riding Rural Districts | West Riding Admin. County | England & Wales (provisional figures) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population). | 16.4 | 16.6 | 15.7 | 15.5 |
| DEATH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) All Causes | 9.8 | 9.3 | 11.6 | 11.4 |
| Infective and Para. Dis. exclu. Tub. but incl. Syph. and other V.D. | - | 0.07 | 0.08 | * |
| Tuberculosis Respiratory | - | 0.13 | 0.16 | 0.18 |
| Tuberculosis Other | - | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Tuberculosis All Forms | - | 0.15 | 0.18 | 0.20 |
| Cancer | 2.45 | 1.57 | 1.88 | 1.99 |
| Vascular Lesions of the nervous system | 1.03 | 1.24 | 1.76 | * |
| Heart and Circulatory | 2.19 | 3.27 | 4.26 | * |
| Respiratory Diseases | 1.42 | 1.06 | 1.30 | * |
| Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births) | - | 0.81 | 0.51 | 0.76 |
| Infant Mortality | 23.6 | 33.3 | 29.3 | 26.8 |
| Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births) | 23.1 | 23.8 | 24.7 | 22.4 |

* figures not available.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Registrar of tuberculous persons.

TABLE III.

| No. of cases in Register | Respiratory M. | Respiratory F. | Non-Respiratory M. | Non-Respiratory F. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| At the commencement of 1953 | 16 | 15 | 6 | 4 | 41 |
| Notified during 1953 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | 4 |
| Removed during 1953 | - | - | 3 | - | 3 |
| At the end of 1953 | 17 | 17 | 3 | 5 | 42 |

There were three removals from the Register. 2 patients recovered and one died.

## PART THREE.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### Child Welfare Clinics.

An Infant Welfare Clinic operates on a fortnightly basis at the Methodist Chapel, Beal, and the people, both of Beal and from the surrounding area have readily accepted the facilities offered.

During the year 67 individual children passed through the clinic. The total number of attendances was 436, and 267 cases were seen by the medical officer.

### Maternity Service.

Gas and Air Analgesia was freely used for confinements and was greatly appreciated by the patients.

The following analysis of births occurring during 1953, adjusted by transferred notifications, indicates how the various maternity services and institutions were used.

1. No. of births occurring in the district during 1953.

| | L.B. | S.B. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Domiciliary cases. | 78 | - | 78 |
| 2. Outward Transfers. | 1 | - | 1 |
| 3. Inward Transfers. | 48 | 3 | 50 |
| Total. | 127 | 3 | 129 |

Inward Transfers.

| | |
|---|---|
| Walton Hall Maternity Home | 22 |
| Hazlewood Maternity Home | 2 |
| Leeds Maternity Hospital | 9 |
| Manygates Maternity Hospital | 2 |
| Fairfield Nursing Home, Doncaster | 2 |
| Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth | 1 |
| Castleford Maternity Home | 8 |
| Wakefield General Hospital | 1 |
| Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport | 1 |
| | 48 |

Care of the Premature Infant.

Six premature infants were notified during the year. In each case a special investigation was made and help given as required. Close liaison exists between Hospitals and Authorities.

## PART FOUR.

## SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Routine school medical inspections were carried out in the Osgoldcross Schools during the year. Cases requiring consultation with a specialist, that is to say, orthopaedic cases ear, nose and throat cases, and eye cases; were referred to the appropriate clinic in Pontefract and dealt with there.

## PART FIVE.

## HOME NURSING.

The demand for the services of the home nurses has been maintained during the year. In the divisional area 19,218 visits have been made to patients.

## PART SIX.

## CARE AND AFTER CARE.

Much good work has been done under this heading during the year. A Health Visitor for Pontefract has continued to visit the Pontefract General Infirmary daily and has maintained close co-operation with her colleagues in the Rural District.

Home Helps.

The demand for this service has steadily increased and even with the increased establishment of Home Helps now permitted, it is proving difficult to cope with the demand.

## PART SEVEN.

## MENTAL HEALTH.

Mental Health is a responsibility of a Sub-Committee of the County Council. Work under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 and 1930, has been undertaken by a Duly Authorised Officer living in Pontefract. He is Mr. R.S.H. Battye, of 27, Grove Lea Crescent, Pontefract. His telephone number is Pontefract 813. We have one Mental Deficiency Social Worker, Miss Simons, for work under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

## PART EIGHT.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Ambulance Service of the District is now operated by the County Council, and its administration is the responsibility of the County Ambulance Officer.

- - - - - - - -

# OSGOLDCROSS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1953.

To the C hairman and Members of the Council, I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1953.

### NUISANCES.

| | |
|---|---|
| The number of primary inspections was - 394 | |
| The number of cases in which nuisance found... ... ... | 383 |
| The number of nuisances outstanding at end of year 1952 | 11 |
| Total number to be dealt with ... ... ... ... ... | 394 |
| The number abated in 1953 was ... ... ... ... ... | 386 |
| Outstanding at the end of the year ... ... ... ... | 8 |

One case only was dealt with by Statutory Notice this being partly complied with by the end of the year. All other cases were dealt with by informal notice or arrangement.

As usual defects in houses accounted for the bulk of the nuisances, the number being 362.

If there has been less grit and sulphur from our neighbouring electricity generating station they have by no stretch of imagination been eliminated and complaint respecting this emission continues to be made, though every effort appears to be made at local level to deal with it. The construction of the new station, which has been commenced, is viewed locally with apprehension, but it may be that a more up to date installation will be more effective and, let us hope, lead to a solution of the present problem.

As to our chemical neighbours, the newer plant, of an acid nature, appears to have got over its "teething" troubles and is likely to be less troublesome in future. The older "alkaline" plant has not yet allayed our fears, but work in hand offers some hope of mitigation.

### HOUSING.

An increase in the number of new houses completed by the Council and houses built under private enterprise have improved the housing situation. Some of the worst of the existing houses have been demolished and others vacated with demolition pending.

A few substandard houses, not in the "unfit" category have been substantially improved and others repaired in a lesser degree. There is much scope for work in this category of houses which in recent years has had a tendency to discouragement by the Government and trade in favour of the building of new houses.

Now that good progress has been made in the construction of new houses, there appears to be more labour and material available for the work, the Minister of Housing and Local Government has given the signal to again attack "slum clearance" and it should be possible to make progress in this direction.

There remains the question, however, of what is to be regarded as an "unfit" house and new proposals as to repairs to houses. Until these are finally settled, administrative doubts and difficulties are likely to hamper the work.

### Action under the Housing Acts & Regulations.

There were 209 houses inspected, of which 195 were recorded under Housing Regulations.

The number classed as unfit was 34, and not in all respects reasonably fit 53.

Nine of the houses were formally represented as being unfit and demolition orders were made in respect of 27 houses (some of which had been represented as unfit prior to 1953).

The number of houses demolished was 14.

Of the houses not totally unfit, but not in all respects reasonably fit, 27 were repaired in addition to the 369 dealt with under "Nuisances".

Work in connection with Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949, was completed at 2 houses, the applications for grant having been approved prior to 1953. Two applications made in 1952 were disapproved in 1953. Of 5 applications made in 1953, 3 were approved, the other 2 being under consideration at the end of the year.

An item not included in preceding paragraphs concerns a block of property at Whitley which comprises a row of 6 brick built cottages in moderate condition but substandard as far as amenities are concerned; a brick built house and shop in similar condition in a block with two derelict houses; and a row of 4 old cottages of poor standard. The owners were approached with a view to repairs and improvement but after discussing the matter made a proposal that the Council should buy the property on favourable terms. After rather prolonged negotiations this was eventially agreed to. The Council have acquired the property and are preparing a scheme of repairs and improvements.

Overcrowding.

Inquiries were made into some 168 cases which showed the number of known cases of overcrowding at the end of the year to be 17. This was a decrease on the year of 5. The 17 remaining cases included 22 families and 134 persons, being about 1.7% of the population and affecting .68% of the houses.

New cases recorded during the year numbered 19 (29 families, 137 persons) and the number abated 27 (37 families, 182 persons).

These cases refer to statutory overcrowding only, the improvement being brought about mainly by transfer of the families to new Council houses. This may be taken as indicative of the improvement in general overcrowding.

Action under Public Health Acts.

The number of houses inspected with regard to water supply, sanitary accommodation etc., was 67. Work was required or undertaken at 59 and was completed at 46.

Nine houses were specially inspected for vermin. Of 2 suspected to be infested with bugs one was apparently clear and the other was cleared by liquid D.D.T., treatment. Ants were the trouble in 4 cases, cockroaches in 2 cases and silver fish in one. One case of cockroaches was very stubborn requiring removal of range and hearth to overcome it.

New Houses.

The Council completed 58 houses and flats during the year and 13 were built by private enterprise.

Schemes for further houses by the Council are in hand at Womersley and Burton Salmon.

WATER.

There has been no major change in the water supply services of the District during the year, but extensions have been made to serve new Council housing estates at Monk Fryston and Fairburn.

The major part of the District is supplied from the Pontefract Corporation Water Works, Heck and Balne being supplied from the Goole Corporation Water Works.

Darrington and Stapleton are supplied from the Council's own small water works at Darrington.

By this means all parishes are served by mains supplies, though these are still a few outlying places where the mains are not near enough to serve the houses.

Inadequate pressure has again been experienced in Monk Fryston and Fairburn areas and negotiations with the supplying authority have taken place with a view to some improvement pending the carrying out of the major scheme proposed several years ago.

Apart from the low pressure trouble mentioned, supplies have been adequate. Occasional samples from the Darrington supply submitted for bacteriological examination have shown doubtful results and it has been decided to install chlorinating apparatus. Otherwise quality has been satisfactory in the public supplies.

About 94·4% of the houses are now supplied from public mains. Wells with hand pumps supply some 3·11% of the houses, the remainder of the houses have tap supplies from private sources.

Of three samples submitted for chemical analysis, one each from a public supply and one from a private well were satisfactory, and the other one, from a private well, was doubtful.

For bacteriological examination, 28 samples were submitted. 19 from public supplies covering the whole District, and 2 from private wells, were satisfactory. 2 from Darrington and 2 from private wells were doubtful. Unsatisfactory samples were reported in 3 cases, in one of which (a public supply) a repeat sample was satisfactory.

SEWERAGE.

At Fairburn a sewer was extended to serve the new Council housing estate on the North Road.

Sewers and a small disposal works were constructed to serve the new Hillam-Monk Fryston housing estate.

Further delay has occurred regarding the much needed new works for Brotherton in association with Fairburn and Byram-cum-Sutton. The wishes and needs of the Knottingley Urban District Council have had to be considered in regard to this scheme but at the end of the year their decision was still awaited. It is to be hoped that this matter will be settled in the near future as the difficulties entailed by delay are likely to increase.

I feel impelled to mention again that a great need of the District is for improved sewerage and sewage disposal facilities for some of the villages, to enable and encourage sanitary progress, such as reduction of the number of cesspools and obviation of the fouling of dikes which is a source of much trouble.

SCAVENGING.

The removal of domestic refuse throughout the District continues. The work tends to increase and some difficulty is experienced in keeping a regular and sufficiently frequent service under present arrangements. Dust bins and pail closets increase in number and must have regular and frequent attention, which has a tendancy to rob the older type privies and ashpits of the attention they need.

Some difficulty was created by firing of two refuse tips but this was eventually overcome. Two other tips were started and all are now available for use.

The improvement of sewerage facilities would also help this department by making it possible to make more conversions to water closets.

Eight privies and two pail closets were converted to water closets during the year, the Council paying contributions in respect of three.

New houses accounted for 70 more W.Cs, bringing the total to some 1327, a percentage of 60·4%.

Privies number some 715, pail closets 485 and dust bins 1458.

SALVAGE.

We had no sale for salvaged material in 1952 but kept the stock which had accumulated, adding to it only that which required no effort. During the year under report we sold:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6 tons 2 qrs. of mixed paper and cardboard for - | £38 | 7 | 8d. |
| and 3 cwts 1 qr. 2 lbs of mixed rags for - | 3 | 18 | 5d. |

We continued putting by what was easily set aside but prices obtainable did not appear to justify any special effort.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

With the exception of measles it was a quiet year for infectious diseases. The 9 cases of Scarlet Fever were a reduction of 21 on the previous year, and were widespread as to time and locality.

Three of the cases were nursed at home. Terminal disinfection was carried out on behalf of the householders in 3 cases.

Again no cases of Diphtheria were reported.

Disinfection was carried out at 2 houses on account of Tuberculosis; one case removing to a fresh house, the other the patient entering sanatorium.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS.

A trained man is employed part time on the destruction of rats and mice the remainder of his time being spent in the scavenging department. Efforts have been made to spend more time on inspection or investigation work but exigencies of the scavenging service have demanded rather more of his time than was hoped. Some more time however was managed for inspection work, including agricultural premises.

The number of premises inspected were, Council properties 12, dwelling houses 543, agricultural premises 84, all others, including business premises 51. Infestations were found at Council properties 5, dwelling houses 86, agricultural premises 8, other premises 6.

The figures for agricultural premises infestation and treatment may appear low but many farmers have contracts with the County Agricultural Executive Committee for treatment and at the time of inspection most of the premises appeared clear.

Sewers in various places were test baited, on which the Ministry place much importance. Only a section of the Brotherton sewers was found to be infested and this was fully treated. In view of the continued non-infestation the Ministry has excused the test baiting of all but the Brotherton sewers for the year 1954.

The Area Advisory and Planning Committee (Group No. 11) met two or three times and had useful talks etc. The initial purpose of the Committee having been fulfilled, there does not seem the same need to meet as often.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughtering of animals for food continued at Government controlled premises of which there were none in this District. The indications are that this will all soon be changed, the control removed from the sale of meat, and meat animals and slaughtering facilities will have to be reviewed.

Meat received into our District has been sound and I had no occasion to seize any. Butchers shops have been satisfactorily maintained.

Visits were paid to grocers shops, fried fish shops and hotels, conditions in general being found reasonably good.

The only unfit food I encountered was at hotels, where I was asked to examine suspected canned goods. Here I found 5 cans of fruit (weight 20 lbs) and 4 cans of meat (weight about 36 lbs) unfit for consumption. By mutual agreement they were destroyed.

There are 9 premises registered in respect of ice cream. One a producer-retailer the remainder retailers. The producer has a modern plant and this and his premises have been maintained in a satisfactory condition. The other retailers sell only unwrapped ice cream as delivered by the wholesale manufacturers, and have suitable refrigerators on the premises for storage of the ice cream. The 20 inspections made revealed no cause for complaint. Nine samples were submitted for bacteriological inspection. One was unsatisfactory, grade 4, but a repeat sample was grade 1, satisfactory. The others were 7 grade 1, and 1 grade 1; satisfactory.

An unusual incident was the allegation that a large quantity of potatoes delivered to neighbouring Districts and found to be unfit for human consumption were from a certain farm in this District. I investigated the matter at the farm concerned, examined the stock of potatoes, inquired fully into the circumstances, and personally cooked and ate of the potatoes but found nothing wrong.

It is believed the potatoes complained of had been grown in ground which had been treated with a chemical insecticide and had been "contaminated" thereby. I found nothing however to support the contention that this had occurred at this farm.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The number of distributors registered in the District is 9. In 4 cases there are no premises in the District, and the others are more or less utensil storage places or trading addressed.

Much milk is of course produced in the District but the premises concerned being dairy farms are registered with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Licences for Special Designations issued were:-

"Tuberculin Tested" - dealers 4, supplementary 3.
"Pasteurised" - dealers 4, supplementary 3.
"Sterilised" - dealer 1, supplementary 3.

Most of the Tuberculin Tested milk is also Pasteurised.

There have been no cases of infectious disease or other illness attributed to milk. A case of scarlet fever occurred in the household of a dairy farm in which case voluntary arrangements were made for safeguarding the milk and no further case of the illness ensued.

In a case of Tuberculosis in a young child a sample of the milk, ungraded, was submitted for biological test and no evidence of Tuberculosis could be found. A sample of the same milk satisfied the Methylene Blue test also.

FACTORIES.

There are some 22 Factories in the District, equipped with mechanical power and therefore come under the jurisdiction of H.M. Factory Inspectors except as regards sanitary accommodation. In the course of 28 visits 2 cases of insufficient accommodation and 1 of unsuitable accommodation were dealt with and 1 case in which the drainage system was blocked. These were all suitably disposed of except one of insufficient accommodation, which was in hand at the end of the year. Other premises (building sites and engineering work) to the number of 8 received 13 visits, when conditions were found satisfactory for the circumstances.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

No sites have been licenced for the stationing of moveable dwellings. Another trailer caravan was licensed and the number of moveable dwellings more or less settled in the District was 8.

I found 10 other caravans, some of the gypsy type, which stayed for short periods. Some of these were not satisfactory and I saw to it that they moved quickly on.

At a place mentioned in last years report where there was a tendency for caravans to concentrate and stay for undue periods on land not licenced for the purpose the matter was taken up with the owners of the land who have not applied for a licence but have apparently exercised the requisite control as there have been less caravans and no contraventions.

---oOo---

/Over

My retirement being imminent, this will be my last annual report and my final words are to express my appreciation of the good relationship which has obtained between the Council and myself; to thank you for your confidence and consideration; to warmly thank your Clerk (Mr. Bland), Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Fraser), Surveyor (Mr. Hopley) and all other members of the staff for their co-operation, respective help and cordial relationship.

My best wishes go to the Council, the Officers and Staff, including my successor, for every success in their efforts to serve well the residents of the Osgoldcross Rural District.

Respectfully yours,
GORDON LEDWITH.